(x) Combined duty Allowance @ Rs. 75/- per month is paid to such Gramin Dak Sewaks Mail Deliverer who performs the work of Gramin Dak Sewaks BPM in addition to their normal duties.

(xi) The Gramin Dak Sewaks BPMs who convey cash to the account office are also paid Rs.10/- plus actual bus fare as cash remittance allowance.

(xii) The Gramin Dak Sewaks SPMs/BPMs are paid Rs. 20/- per month as retainership allowance for PCO and Paise 40 for each inward and out ward telegram transmitted on phone.

(xiii) Bonus is also paid to the Gramin Dak Sewak's on the pattern of regular central government employees on pro rata basis *i.e.*

$$= \frac{\text{Average Emoluments X No. of days}}{30.4}$$

(xiv) The GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs are covered under the Group Insurance Scheme 1992 and are eligible for Rs. 10000/- as insurance cover. In addition, the element of Savings fund is also available under the scheme.

(xv) Financial assistance from Welfare Fund: An amount of Rs. 7000/- is paid to dependent of GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs who die in employment.

(xvi) An amount of Rs. 50,000/- is paid from Welfare Fund to the GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs who are killed in attack by dacoits/robbers due to terrorist violence/riots while on Government duty.

(xvii) Funeral Expenses: An amount of Rs. 250/- is also paid from Welfare Fund on death of GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs while on duty and there are no relatives or friends available for voluntarily bearing the funeral expenses.

(xviii) Flood Advance: An amount of Rs. 200/- is admissible to the GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs as Flood advance.

(xix) Financial Assistance in illness (TB): GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs suffering from TB are paid financial assistance @ Rs. 200/- p.m. for nutritious diet and @ Rs. 100/- after their discharge from hospital/in case of OPD treatment.

(xx) Compassionate Appointment: There is provision of compassionate appointment to one of the family members of the GRAMIN DAK SEWAKs who die in harness leaving the family behind in indigent circumstances.

Telephone subscribers

415. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of landline and mobile subscribers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for deteriorating mobile services of BSNL and MTNL; and

(c) the tele-density in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The total number of landline and wireless telephone subscribers, as on 31st December 2008 are 37.89 million and 346-89 million respectively. The Circle/State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) based cellular Mobile Telephone Service being provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is working satisfactorily and is, in general, meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). BSNL is augmenting its mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage, capacity and to further improve the Quality of Service. BSNL is optimizing its network continuously for its performance. Monitoring of the network has also been strengthened to ensure performance as per the QoS parameters prescribed by TRAI.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)'s mobile service is meeting most of the benchmarks prescribed for Quality of service (QoS) parameters by TRAI. However, there have been some temporary problems which were mostly on account of capacity augmentation and upgradation of network exercise undertaken by MTNL in Delhi. Also, high rise buildings continuously appear in the line of sight and that disturbs the signal which ultimately causes deterioration in wireless services. However, efforts are being made to optimize the network continuously to maintain quality.

(c) As on 31st December 2008, the tele-density in the country stands at 33.23%. The Circle/State-wise details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Circle/State-wise landline, wireless telephones and tele-density

Sl. No.	Name of Circle/State	Landline telephones	Wireless telephones	Total telephones	Over all tele-density (in %)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar*	19,663	73,111	92,774	20.08
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2,548,635	24,510,674	30,059,309	36.20
3.	Assam	358,915	5,224,949	5,583,864	18.77
4.	Bihar	971,244	16,885,376	17,856,620	18.84
5.	Chhattisgarh*	292,662	861,733	1,154,395	4.90
6.	Gujarat	2,127,825	21,673,079	23,800,904	41.13
7.	Haryana	868,311	8,515,350	9,383,661	38.26

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	383,871	3,003,717	3,387,588	50.93
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	243,920	2,966,868	3,210,788	28.19
10.	Jharkhand	416,168	756,636	1,172,804	3.84
11.	Karnataka	2,779,015	21,142,491	23,921,506	41.19
12.	Kerala	3,593,756	15,033,093	18,626,849	54.63
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1,401,239	17,440,843	18,842,082	27.03
14.	Maharashtra (-) Mumbai	3,238,586	27,483,273	30,721,859	33.75
15.	North East—I	206,933	2,539,355	2,746,288	38.90
16.	North East—II*	125,743	345,087	470,830	8.13
17.	Orissa	688,341	7,521,397	8,209,738	20.54
18.	Punjab	1,649,018	13,329,536	14,978,554	52.97
19.	Rajasthan	1,668,778	19,845,576	21,514,354	32.86
20.	Tamil Nadu (-) Chennai	2,299,074	24,499,550	26,798,624	45.07
21.	Uttarakhand*	302,339	745,131	1,047,470	10.87
22.	Uttar Pradesh	2,491,632	39,785,087	42,276,719	21.88
23.	West Bengal (-) Kolkata	1,054,175	13,554,880	14,609,055	19.84
24.	Kolkata	1,520,609	10,388,544	11,909,153	81.26
25.	Chennai	1,386,735	8,713,872	10,100,607	121.83
26.	Delhi	2,475,073	19,972,366	22,447,439	129.33
27.	Mumbai	2,785,895	17,082,234	19,868,129	99.87
	TOTAL	37,898,155	346,893,808	384,791,963	33.23

Note: (1) *Figs for Landline telephone connections of Bharti Airtel Limited is shown in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh separately. Figures for Cellular and WLL telephone connections of Bharti Airtel for Chhattisgarh are included in Madhya Pradesh.

(2) *Figs. for Land line, WLL and Cellular Connections provided by Private Operators in Andaman and Nicobar, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and NE-II are included in West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and NE-I respectively, as private operators are providing data service area wise only.

(3) Source BSNL / MTNL / COAI / AUSPI.